

Tony was a school administrator in Wicomico County, MD. His daughter Beth Sheller is currently a public school teacher in Wicomico County. Few other professionals are able to touch so many people in such a lasting way as do teachers. I have been privileged to witness this first hand through the experiences of my family members who have spent their careers in the education profession.

Today's teachers are in the midst of incredible struggles. Being a teacher has never been easy, but our modern society has only increased the challenges. Today, our teachers face the task of educating children with limited English skills, meeting the requirements of the recently enacted No Child Left Behind Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, staying abreast of new technology, and doing so in aging schools that are in need of extensive repairs and updating. With so many schoolchildren living in families with both parents working or in single-parent homes, our schools and teachers are being asked to assume much of the responsibility for after school care as well.

Compared with many professions, our Nation's teachers are overwhelmed and underpaid, shouldering major responsibilities that often go unappreciated. Our citizens are considered to be among the best educated in the world and for that we have our teachers to thank. While we frequently hear tales of failing schools, many success stories are overlooked. This week is a fitting time to tell the stories of the many caring, dedicated and talented educators who perform their jobs with excellence every day. Their successes motivate children and other teachers and increase our confidence in our education system. We need to hear more about teachers like Robin Nussbaum, this year's winner of the Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award for Howard County. Ms. Nussbaum is a special education teacher at Cedar Lane School in Columbia, MD. Her students and their families acknowledge it is her tireless work in and out of the classroom, coupled with her deep concern for student success that make her an extraordinary educator.

I would like to read for the RECORD a list of the 2002-2003 Maryland Teachers of the Year from all 23 Maryland counties and Baltimore City. These professionals have demonstrated incredibly high performance in their fields in a very challenging time.

2002-2003 MARYLAND TEACHERS OF THE YEAR
 Allegany, Heather Michele Morgan, Parkside Elem., Kindergarten
 Anne Arundel, Mattie A. Procaccini, Old Mill HS, English 9, 10
 Baltimore City, Sara Lawlives, Westport Academy, Kindergarten
 Baltimore County, Cheryl Bost, Mars Estates Elem., Reading/Language
 Calvert, James R. Seawell, Plum Point MS, Science 7, 8
 Caroline, Catherine L. Knight, Lockerman MS, Science 8
 Carroll, Susan H. Adami, Hampstead Elem., Grades 4, 5

Cecil, Charlotte E. Mehosky, Gilpin Manor Elem., Pre-primary/Special Education
 Charles, Joan Withers, La Plata HS, English 10, 12

Dorchester, Terri Lynn Wright, North Dorchester HS, Phys. Ed./Health
 Frederick, Darren Ray Hornbeck, Linganore HS, Social Studies 11, 12
 Garrett, Elizabeth Rees Gilbert, Swan Meadow, Science/Lang./S.S.

Harford, Howard E. Eakes, Fountain Green Elem., Grade 5

Howard, Michele Zurad, Burleigh Manor MS, Math 6

Kent, Sue Dorsey, Millington Elem., Math, Science 3

Montgomery, Arlene Barte-Lowe, Takoma Park MS, Reading, Math 6

Prince George's, Vanessa Hill, Dwight D. Eisenhower MS

Queen Anne's, Darryl C. Calloway, Sudlersville MS, Social Studies 6

St. Mary's, Larry Brabec, James A. Forrest, Sheet Metal 10, 12 Career and Tech Center

Somerset, Glen N. Ennis, Greenwood MS, Grade 6 & Tech Ed.

Talbot, Thomas M. Callahan, Easton HS, Social Studies 9-12

Washington, Vicki Follett, Bester Elem., Grades 1, 2

Wicomico, Beth S. Sheller, West Salisbury Elem., Grades Pre-K - 2

Worcester, Sandy Coates, West Showell Elem., Grade 2

If you ask many people the name of the winner of the Academy Awards Best Picture Award 20 years ago, or the NBA Most Valuable Player from 10 years ago, few would be able to remember. However, ask any individual to name his or her favorite teacher, and it is usually an easy task. Not only can they recall the name, but also how that teacher positively affected their lives. Today, I want hard working teachers everywhere to know that they are appreciated. We know they make a difference and we should all thank them for their commitment and hard work.

HONORING THE MEMBERS OF THE 28th BOMB WING

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to welcome home the members of the 28th Bomb Wing stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base.

The B-1 bombers and crews of the 28th Bomb Wing are returning home today, and over the next few weeks, from their service in Operation Iraqi Freedom. As they did in Kosovo and Afghanistan, the B-1 bombers performed superbly in the war in Iraq. They have once again demonstrated that they are the backbone of America's bomber fleet. The B-1's unique ability to linger over the battlefield and provide responsive firepower at the time and place required by military commanders was an integral part of our victory in Iraq.

I want to specifically honor four members of a B-1 crew stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base who were acknowledged for their service during the war. CPT Chris Wachter, LTC Fred Swan, CPT Sloan Hollis, and 1LT Joe Runci were each awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross medal for their

April 7 attack on a suspected hideout of Saddam Hussein.

While in the course of another assigned mission, this four-member B-1 crew was tasked with striking a building in which current intelligence indicated Saddam Hussein was meeting with top Iraqi officials. This information was relayed to the B-1 crew which confirmed the coordinates, flew to the target, and accurately released four 2,000-pound bunker-buster bombs. This all occurred within 12 minutes. Having successfully hit this leadership target, the B-1 and her crew went on to strike an additional 17 targets in two separate locations.

Although B-1s flew fewer than 2 percent of the combat sorties in Operation Iraqi Freedom, they dropped more than half the satellite-guided Air Force Joint Direct Attack Munitions, JDAMs. The B-1s were tasked against the full spectrum of potential targets in Iraq, including command and control facilities, bunkers, tanks, armored personnel carriers, and surface-to-air missile sites. They also provided close air support for U.S. forces engaged in the field. The bombers and crews accomplished all of this while maintaining over an 80 percent mission capable rate. This record of success proves B-1 is a vital, versatile, and potent component of our military force structure.

Like all South Dakotans, I am proud of the men and women who are stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base. They are an essential part of our South Dakota community, and are doing their duty to keep our Nation safe. I am pleased CPT Wachter, LTC Swan, CPT Hollis, and 1LT Runci were each recognized for their remarkable actions during Operation Iraqi Freedom. But I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge all the men and women at Ellsworth who keep the B-1s in the air and ready to respond. It is the work of all the crews and all the support teams that keep the B-1 at the forefront of our military.

Once again, I want to welcome home the members of the 28th Bomb Wing, and thank them for their service to our Nation.

NOMINATION OF LEWIS J. BUCKLEY

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, last Friday, my Senate colleagues and I voted unanimously to confirm the nomination of Lewis J. Buckley to the rank of captain in the United States Coast Guard. This confirmation is well-deserved and bears a particular significance to the United States Coast Guard.

Captain-Select Buckley is the conductor of the Nation's Coast Guard Band. Since its formation in 1925, this organization has developed an international reputation as one of the finest professional concert bands in the world. And since 1965, the Coast Guard Band has been the permanent, official musical representative of the nation's oldest maritime service.

However, unlike its counterparts in the nation's four other military services, the Coast Guard Band has never been led by an officer over the military grade of O-5. Captain-Select Buckley's promotion demonstrates the ascendancy of an institution with a laudable and grand tradition. Once regarded as the Coast Guard Academy's local music ensemble, the Coast Guard Band now routinely tours throughout the United States. It also often represents the Coast Guard around the world and will certainly promote a distinguished image of the country's new Department of Homeland Security.

The Coast Guard could not have found a finer leader to oversee the ongoing evolution of this important institution. Captain-Select Buckley is an accomplished jazz trumpeter as well as music composer, arranger, and director. He is the recipient of the American Legion's Distinguished Service Citation and two Meritorious Service Medals.

Since his appointment as conductor of the Band in 1975, Captain-Select Buckley has led the Coast Guard Band to play more concerts on air on National Public Radio than any other wind band, military or civilian—a fine testament to his able leadership and to the musical talent of the Coast Guard Band's men and women.

Mr. President, I am proud that my colleagues acted to confirm this nomination, to honor my constituent, Captain-Select Lewis J. Buckley, and to pay tribute to an historic musical institution, headquartered in New London, Connecticut.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the dedication and sacrifice of the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as public safety officers.

Tonight, in a candlelight vigil, the names of 56 officers who lost their lives last year will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial here in Washington, DC. This is a somber time to remember the perilous duties that law enforcement officers take on each and every day to protect our communities. The Memorial is a fitting tribute to honor those we have lost in the line of duty.

Sadly, Wisconsin owes three officers a special tribute for their service. I would like to honor them by placing their names in the RECORD along with the date of their untimely passing.

Officer Robert Etter, Hobart-Lawrence, July 22, 2002; Officer Stephanie Markins, Hobart-Lawrence, July 22, 2002; Deputy Melvin Sharpless of Waushara County, December 16, 2002.

I hope that these moments of recognition bring some solace to the officers' families and express our appreciation for their service. We are forever in their debt.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

PLANNED PARENTHOOD: SHASTA-DIABLO'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to share with my colleagues my thoughts on the 40th anniversary of Planned Parenthood: Shasta-Diablo, located in my home State of California.

It is my great honor to recognize the extraordinary contributions of Planned Parenthood: Shasta-Diablo, PPSD, as it celebrates its 40th anniversary. The Planned Parenthood Federation of America was founded in 1916 by visionary social reformer Margaret Sanger. In 1962, PPSD began serving Contra Costa County and now provides essential reproductive health care and public education to more than 100,000 women, men, and teenagers in 13 northern California counties. During these 40 years, PPSD has shown an unwavering commitment to providing the highest quality reproductive health services, regardless of income. For many low-income residents in these 13 counties, PPSD may be their only source of health care.

PPSD's dedication and leadership place it at the cutting edge of Planned Parenthood affiliates. PPSD has the distinction of having the largest education department of any Planned Parenthood affiliate in the United States. PPSD has been at the forefront of the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS because it was the first Planned Parenthood affiliate in the United States to provide HIV testing in 1987. In 1990, PPSD was also one of the first affiliates to begin providing prenatal services. PPSD recognized that it is critically important to the health of a woman and her baby that she receive health care as early as possible in the pregnancy.

In addition to providing services at traditional health centers, PPSD has the largest number of express sites in the United States. At these express sites, PPSD partners with a wide range of community groups to provide birth control, including emergency contraception. Through the express sites, PPSD is able to serve high schools and colleges, homeless shelters, social service offices, and rural health departments. Underserved populations are able to get lifesaving services that might not otherwise be available to them. And high-risk youth are well served by PPSD's express sites and teen peer educators who offer advice that youth can really relate to.

Planned Parenthood: Shasta-Diablo would not have reached its 40th anniversary without the outstanding and exemplary leadership of two very special women. It is my pleasure to recognize Rosalie Ross, who served as executive director of PPSD for 10 years, and current president and CEO Heather Saunders Estes. Their dedication, foresight, and compassion are extraordinary and inspirational.

PPSD is "Celebrating Our Past, Protecting Our Future: 40 Years of Service, 30 Years of Choice" because this year we also commemorate the 30th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. The *Roe* decision saved countless lives by getting women out of the back alleys and into clean and safe facilities. The *Roe* decision has kept women from being forced to continue pregnancies that could endanger their health or render them infertile. The 30th anniversary of *Roe* commemorates not an isolated event, but a long and unending struggle for women's equality.

PPSD is an important part of that struggle. For the past 20 years, I have been fighting in Congress for reproductive rights. PPSD has stood by me, working hand in hands to protect a woman's right to choose. Planned Parenthood: Shasta-Diablo has been there for women, men, and teens for 40 years and I wish them another 40 years of success.●

HONORING DEVELOPMENT OF SISTER CITIES

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize two communities that will become "sister cities" on May 31, 2003. This association began in 1986, by chance, between the communities of Webster, SD and the borough of Dewangen Germany, in the town of Aalen. Their friendship arose when the Dewangen wrestling team and their coach, Tony Abele, visited the city of Webster for one week. This "match" has grown and flourished through the efforts of several members of the Webster community and their Mayor, Mike Grosek.

The Contract of Friendship will improve the mutual understanding between the people of these two nations, with the exchange of information to include sportive, cultural and municipal events. It will focus, above all, on the young people of both communities, imparting to them the understanding of each other's world view, problems and achievements and the importance of mutual responsibility for a peaceful co-existence.

Both communities and their elected representatives have entered into this contract of friendship in the name of their respective citizens. It is their request to accept and honor the joint responsibility for global peace and environment; to support exchanges in the field of culture, sports and economy, and to deepen the good relations based on friendship and common understanding.

I commend the city of Webster for its diligence in pursuing this contract of friendship, and I welcome the citizens of Dewangen, Germany to the great State of South Dakota.●

CONGRATULATING THE KAHUKU HIGH AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate the team of students from